The Ministry does not set up cold storages on its own. The assistance is @ 25% of cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in General aeras and 33.33% in Difficult areas subject to a common ceiling of Rs. 75 lakhs.

(c) With a view to encourage, among others, processing and preservation of vegetable products and resultant positive impact of income generation of small farmers, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under its plan schemes provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for Technology upgradation/establishment/modernization of food processing industries. Assistance is @ 25% of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in General areas and 33.33% upto Rs. 75 lakhs in Difficult areas.

(d) The schemes of the Ministry are project specific and not state specific. Projects are considered for financial assistance based on viable and complete project proposals received duly recommended by the concerned State Nodal Agency. No project proposal for setting up of cold storage in Bihar has been received during the current financial year.

Use of colours in food items

1121. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Nutrition has found liberal use of a variety of colours in food items which are harmful for health;

(b) if so, the details of the findings; and

(c) the action taken to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of House.

Drug Control Authority

1122. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up an Autonomous Drug Control Authority of India and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons, therefore and the specific functions proposed to be assigned thereto;